

Lightning North American Championship
August 7-11, 2024
Buffalo Canoe Club Crystal Beach, Ontario, Canada

www.buffalocanoeclub.com

Regatta Website: <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=16553>

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Including Amendment #1 (red)

The notation "[NP]" in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

The notation '[DP]' in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the ILCA Constitution, By-Laws, and the Document Governing All Sanctioned Lightning Class Championships (hereafter referred to as Document Governing), and the prescriptions of Sail Canada. If there is a conflict between the Sailing Instructions and any other document governing the event, the Sailing Instructions shall take precedence. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 1.2 RRS 42.3(c) is changed to read: "Except on a beat to windward, when surfing (rapidly accelerating down the front of a wave) or planing is possible, the boat's crew may pull the sheet only, (not the guy), in order to initiate surfing or planing, but each sail may be pulled only once for each wave or gust of wind. When the mainsail is pumped, only that part of the sheet between the crew member handling the sheet and the first block on the boom shall be used."
- 1.3 RRS 44.1 is changed by SI 13 PENALTY SYSTEM.
- 1.4 Discretion shall be given to the OA & PRO with respect to determining fleet splits, if any, when the total number of boats registered is within five (5) (plus or minus) of the target fleet split amounts (i.e., 66 and 99 boats). Any decision to make a change shall be posted no later than 1200 on Wednesday, August 7, 2024. This changes Addendum B section 2.2.1 and 2.2.2.

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0830 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located online at yachtscoring.com.
- 3.2 Any questions regarding the sailing instructions shall be submitted in writing to the RC PRO. The question(s) and any answers will be posted on the official notice board as soon as possible.
- 3.3 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors via VHF radio on channel 72. Competitors are advised to bring their own VHF radio.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the main BCC flag pole located on the beach area in front of the BCC clubhouse.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in the race signal AP. This changes RRS Race Signals.

5. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Day	Event	Time
Wednesday, 8/07	Registration, Check-in, and Measurement All boats must be afloat Competitors Meeting and Welcome Party at BCC	0900-1630 1700 1700
Thursday, 8/08	Coffee and snacks Competitor Briefing Races Post-race Refreshments & Daily Awards, East Lawn Dinner at BCC, Main Clubhouse	0800-0930 0900 First Warning 1100 After Racing 1730
Friday, 8/09	Coffee and snacks Competitor Briefing Races Post-Races Refreshments & Daily Awards, East Lawn	0800-0930 0830 First Warning 1030 After Racing
Saturday, 8/10	Coffee and snacks Competitor Briefing Races <i>Access to the Main Clubhouse will be closed from 1500 due to the BCC Commodore's Ball</i> Dinner at BYC with Daily Awards, BYOB	0800-0930 0830 First Warning 1030 1800
Sunday, 8/11	Coffee and snacks Competitor Briefing Races No Warning Signal After Awards on BCC East Lawn	0800-0930 0830 First Warning 1030 1400 After Racing

The number of races held each day will be at the discretion of the RC.

6. FLEET FLAGS

Qualifying Series		Final Series:	
<i>Fleet</i>	<i>Flag</i>	<i>Fleet</i>	<i>Flag</i>
Blue	White w/Red Bolt	Championship	White w/Red Bolt
Green	Green	President's Cup	Green

7. RACING AREA

The racing area will be SSE of the Buffalo Canoe Club.

8. THE COURSES

8.1 Diagrams in Addendum A show the courses, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left. A windward offset mark will be laid approximately perpendicular to the course axis. The windward offset mark is to be rounded to port.

8.2 No later than the warning signal, the RC signal boat will display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg and the course to be sailed.

9. MARKS

9.1 Original marks are orange inflatables.

9.2 New marks, as in SI 11, are yellow inflatables.

10. THE START

10.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the starboard end signal boat and a staff displaying an orange flag on the port-end starting mark boat. In the absence of a boat, the port end of the starting line will be the course side of an inflatable buoy.

10.2 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.

10.3 Individual recalls and boats disqualified under RRS 30.3 and 30.4 will be broadcast on VHF channel 72 using sail numbers and/or bow numbers. This is in addition to and changes RRS 29.1 and 30.3 and 30.4. Failure of the RC to broadcast, the order of the broadcast or the timeliness of the broadcast will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

10.4 A boat that does not start within 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

11. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark. In the case of a course change after the start, the windward offset mark will not be replaced and will no longer be a part of the course.

12. THE FINISH

12.1 For downwind finishes, the finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the finishing line boat and a staff displaying a blue flag on a nearby RC boat or an inflatable buoy. The finishing line will be located to leeward of the leeward gate.

12.2 For windward finishes, the finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the finishing line boat and a staff displaying a blue flag on a nearby RC boat or an inflatable buoy. The finishing line will be located to windward of the windward mark.

13. PENALTY SYSTEM

13.1 POST_RACE PENALTIES

(a) Provided that rule 44.1(b) does not apply, a boat that may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident may take a Post-Race Penalty at any time after the race until the beginning of a protest hearing involving the incident.

(b) A Post-Race Penalty is a 20% Scoring Penalty calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c), if taken prior to the protest time limit. However, rule 44.1(a) applies.

(c) A Post-Race Penalty is a 30% Scoring Penalty calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c), if taken after the protest time limit. However, rule 44.1(a) applies.

(d) A boat takes a Post-Race Penalty by delivering to the protest desk a written statement that she accepts the penalty and that identifies the race number and where and when the incident occurred.

14. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 14.1 Target time for first boat to finish the race will be 60-75 minutes. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).
- 14.2 Time limit shall be 2 hours.
- 14.3 Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A TLE score shall be two (2) more points than the number of boats that have finished within the time limit. This changes RRS 35, A4, A5, and A11.

15. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 15.1 Protest forms are available at the BCC Front Desk (except on Saturday August 10 when they will be available under the East Tent). Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 15.2. The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the RC Signal Boat has docked.
- 15.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located in the BCC Abino Room, beginning at the time posted, except for Saturday, August 10 when hearings may be heard in the club office.
- 15.4 Notices of protests by the RC or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).
- 15.5 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered.
 - (a) within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day;
 - (b) no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day. This changes rule 66.
- 15.6 On the last scheduled day of racing, a request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes rule 62.2.

16. SCORING AND EVENT FORMAT

- 16.1 Addendum B will describe event scoring and format as per Document Governing All Sanctioned events, Articles VIII and XIII.
- 16.2 To request correction of an alleged error in posted race or series results, a boat may complete a scoring inquiry form available at the BCC Front Desk (or under the East Tent on Sat. Aug 10)..

17. SAFETY REGULATIONS [DP][NP]

- 17.1 Prior to the first warning signal of the first race of each day, each boat is required to check in by passing astern of the RC signal boat on starboard tack and hail her bow or sail number until acknowledged by the RC. Failure to check in may result in a 20% scoring penalty without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.
- 17.2 Boats that retire from a race shall notify the RC as soon as possible.
- 17.3 Boats that leave the racing area between races shall notify the RC as soon as possible.
- 17.4 Boats not leaving the BCC mooring field for any of the day's racing shall notify the RC as soon as possible.

18. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 18.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the Executive Committee or in their absence the RC. In no case may a skipper be substituted.
- 18.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorized by the RC. Requests for substitution shall be made to the Committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

19. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 19.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions.

On the water, a boat can be instructed by a RC equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

- 19.2 In accordance with RRS G3, a boat chartered or loaned for this event may carry national letters or a sail number in contravention of the Class Rules.

20. BOW NUMBERS / EVENT IDENTIFICATION STICKERS [DP][NP]

- 20.1 Boats shall display event advertising supplied by the organizing authority.
- 20.2 Boats may only display advertising as per ISAF Regulation 20 and are restricted to only the hull as per Lightning Class Constitution Article VII 2.
- 20.3 Boats shall display bow numbers and event bow stickers during the event as provided by the OA. They shall be attached to both sides of the boat's hull at all times while racing. Bow numbers and event bow stickers will be attached by the OA. It is the responsibility of the crew to ensure the numbers and stickers remain on the boat and obtain replacements as necessary.

21. SUPPORT BOATS

- 21.1 Support and coach boats must register at the Registration Desk during the posted times.
- 21.2 During racing, support boats shall monitor the RC VHF channel 72 and assist with safety issues when asked by the RC.
- 21.3 Support boats will comply with additional operating instructions provided during registration in accordance with Document Governing.
- 21.4 Team leaders, coaches, and other support personnel shall stay outside the racing area (defined as 100 meters outside the lay lines of the course including the start area) from the start of the first race to the finish of the last race of the regatta unless otherwise designated in the Sailing Instructions. Individual competitors may not use support boats at any time during the regatta unless such support is available to all competitors or is authorized by the organizing authority. The penalty for failure to comply with any of these requirements may be disqualification of all yachts associated with the infringing support personnel.

22. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS [DP][NP]

There is no haul-out during the regatta. Boats must be wet sailed beginning at 1700 hours on Wednesday, August 7 until the end of the regatta. Written permission must be granted by the Chief Judge or jury member to haul out. No exceptions.

23. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.** The OA will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

24. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of US\$300,000 per incident or the equivalent.

24. RACE OFFICIALS

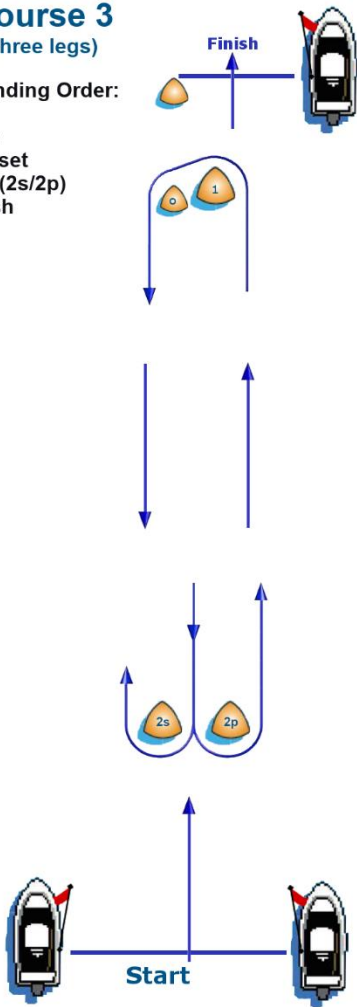
- 24.1 PRO: Todd Fedyszyn
- 24.2 Chief Judge: Jeff Borland

Addendum A: COURSES

Course 3 (three legs)

Rounding Order:

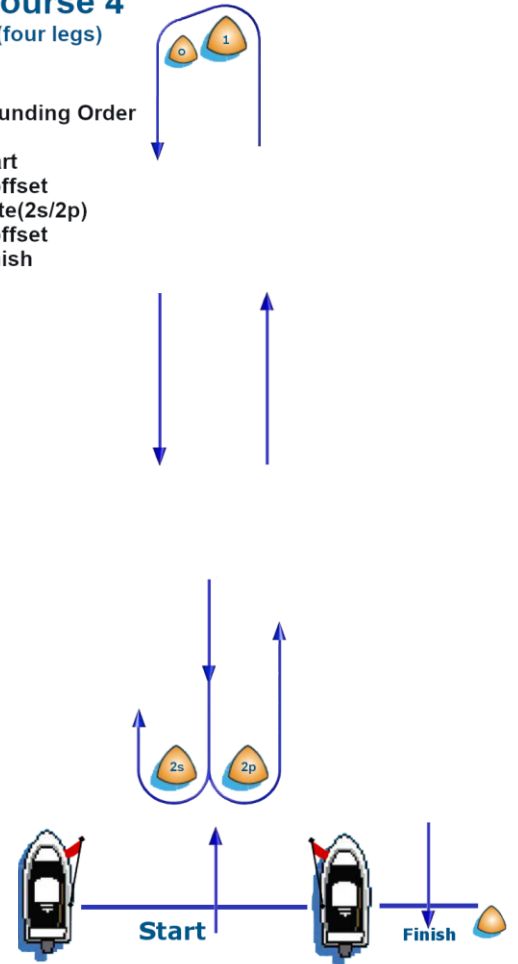
Start
1-offset
Gate(2s/2p)
Finish



Course 4 (four legs)

Rounding Order

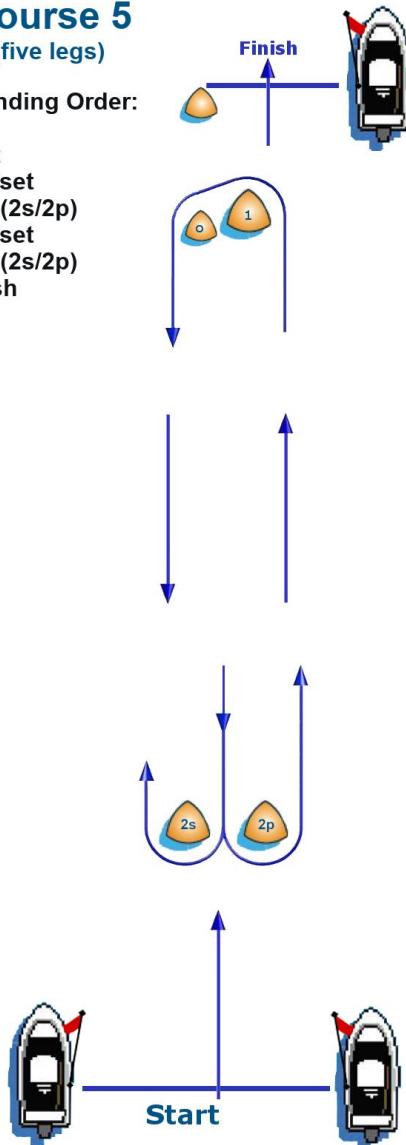
Start
1-offset
Gate(2s/2p)
1-offset
Finish



Course 5 (five legs)

Rounding Order:

Start
1-offset
Gate(2s/2p)
1-offset
Gate(2s/2p)
Finish



Addendum B:

Scoring and Event Format

(In accordance with the Document Governing All Sanctioned Lightning Class Championships as modified by the Temporary Amendment passed March 9, 2024)

B1. Scoring shall be per RRS Appendix A, as modified below.

ARTICLE XIII- RACING CONDITIONS

1. The format for North American Championship when fewer than sixty-six (66) are registered shall be a single fleet without qualifiers, with up to ten (10) races maximum, with one (1) drop race upon the completion of six (6) races.
2. Qualifying and Championship Format for North American Championship when sixty-six (66) or more boats are registered.
 - 2.1. There will be a Qualifying round followed by a Championship round if enough races have been completed in the Qualifying round. Up to (10) races maximum will constitute the series, split between the Qualifying round and the Championship round in configurations described below.
 - 2.2. The Qualifying round will be used to split the fleet into two (2) or (3) fleets for the Championship round, the Championship fleet (Blue), the Presidents fleet (Green), and the Governors fleet (Yellow) if necessary.
 - 2.2.1. If there are sixty-six (66) to ninety-eight (98) boats registered, the total number of registrants will be divided by two (2), and that position's numerical score plus ties will be placed in the Championship fleet, the remainder placed in the Presidents fleet. If the number of registrants is an odd number, add one (1) before dividing by two (2). (Example, with 79 boats, $79+1=80/2=40$. If two boats positioned 40 and 41 are tied on points, they both make Championship fleet, the remaining 39 are in the Presidents fleet).
 - 2.2.2. If there are ninety-nine (99) boats or more, the total number of registrants will be divided by three (3), and that position's numerical score plus ties will be placed in the Championship fleet, the remaining registered boats will then be divided equally between the Presidents and Governors fleet, with tie scores resulting in placement in the higher fleet. If the number of registrants is not divisible by three (3), use the next highest number divisible by three (3). (Example, with 101 boats, use 102, $102/3=34$. If two boats positioned 34 and 35 are tied on points, they both make Championship fleet, remaining 66 are then grouped 33 in the Presidents fleet, plus any ties, the remaining in the Governors fleet).
 - 2.3. The Qualifying round is scheduled for the first two (2) days of the regatta. The regatta schedule is five (5) Qualifying round races and five (5) Championship round races, for a ten (10) race maximum series. A maximum of three (3) races can be sailed each day, and a minimum of three (3) races is required to complete the Qualifying round. In the discretion of the Race Committee, a maximum of six (6) Qualifying round races may be sailed on the first two days and counted toward the fleet split. If six (6) Qualifying round races are sailed, there will be a maximum of four (4) Championship round races. If at least four (4) Qualifying round races are sailed, there shall be one (1) drop race, which will be taken into account when finalizing the fleet split. If three (3) races have not been completed by all fleets before the start of the third day of the regatta, that day's racing will also be used for qualifying. If three (3) races have not been completed by all fleets before the start of the fourth and final day of the regatta, all remaining races will be sailed in the Qualifying round format.
 - 2.4 Competitors shall sail in their assigned fleet for the entire day.
 - 2.5. A boat that receives a scoring penalty as described in RRS A 5.2 shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats in the fleet in which she was racing.
3. Procedure for fleet assignments when there are more than 66 boats registered
 - 3.1. Day one: assignment to a fleet for the first day of racing will be seeded by the Class Executive Secretary and the Class President. If there are sixty-six (66) to ninety-eight (98) registered boats, the fleets will be split in two (2).

- If there are ninety-nine (99) or more registered, the fleets will be split into three (3).
- 3.2. Day two: the results of previous day shall be seeded B-GG-BB-GG, etc. If there are ninety-nine (99) boats or more, the results of previous day shall be seeded B-G-Y-G-B-B-G-Y, etc., unless no previous racing was conducted on Day one. If no races were sailed on Day one, the fleet assignments remain the same as Day one.
 - 3.3. Day three: If the Qualifying round was not completed, Day three will be seeded using the scores up through Day two using the method stated in 3.2. If the qualifying round was completed on Day two, the fleet will be split into Championship fleet (Blue), Presidents fleet (Green), and Governors fleet (Yellow).
 - 3.4. Day four: If the Qualifying round was not completed, Day four will be seeded using the scores up through Day three using the method stated in 3.2. If the qualifying round was completed, on Day three, the fleet will be split into Championship fleet (Blue), Presidents fleet (Green), and, Governors fleet (Yellow).
 - 3.5. In the Qualifying round, no fleet is allowed to get ahead by more than one race. If all qualifying fleets do not complete the same number of races by 2000 hours of that day, the highest number of races completed by all fleets shall be scored, and the races ahead are considered abandoned and not scored.
 - 3.6. Fleet assignments in the Qualifying round will be made by 2000 hours the evening before they are to take place. No protest or scoring inquiry will change the fleet assignments if not finalized before 2000 hours.
 - 3.7. Should the Qualifying round be completed before Day three or Day four, Fleet assignments for the Championship round will take into account all protests, scoring reviews and redress decisions unless they are still undecided at 0800 on the day of Championship round.
 - 3.8. The race committee's decision on fleet assignments will be final and cannot be grounds for redress. This change is added to RRS 62.1a.
4. Championship Round when there are more than 66 boats registered
 - 4.1. If the Qualifying Round has been completed before Day three or Day four, Blue, Green and (if necessary) Yellow will race as separate fleets.
 - 4.2. Assignment to the Blue, Green and Yellow fleets will be based on a competitor's overall finishing position in the Qualifying round and the number of total registrants (see section 2.2.1 and 2.2.2).
 - 4.3. Assignment to each fleet will be final for the entire Championship round.
 - 4.4. A boat's overall score for the regatta will be the boat's total score from the Qualifying round plus her total score from the Championship round. If at least four (4) races are sailed, there shall be one (1) drop race for all of the counted races. The drop race may or may not be the same race dropped to qualify for a fleet. (For example, if a boat scores 3-3-5-9 in the qualifying round, the score for the fleet split is 11. If in the Championship fleet, the boat then scores 20-21-11, the 21 would be dropped, the 9 would come back in, and the score would be 51 (3-3-5-9-20-X-11))
 5. Identification when there are more than 66 boats registered

Boats shall display from their backstay a colored ribbon that corresponds with their assigned fleet at all times while racing.